



O'HARE NOISE COMPATIBILITY COMMISSION

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Executive Director

October 31, 2014

Mr. Michael P. Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington D.C. 20591

Dear Administrator Huerta:

This fall, O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC) members voted on two separate resolutions seeking immediate action and results from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for environmental studies at O'Hare International Airport.

First, in September, the 53-member commission approved a resolution specifying a January 2015 deadline for results of a federally-funded study to re-evaluate the shifts in aircraft noise created when O'Hare modified its modernization schedule.

As you may know, the Environmental Impact Statement Re-Evaluation has been under consideration since 2011 when the FAA agreed to review interim aircraft noise as a result of negotiations with airlines and Chicago to change the original sequence of the airport's modernization. The commission felt it was time to finish this study and address its ramifications.

On September 5, you explained to the lawmakers in a letter that the three-year EIS process for O'Hare was "one of the most comprehensive environmental analyses we have ever conducted" and turned down a congressional request for the agency to conduct a supplemental EIS. We also are aware that the two Park Ridge requests for a supplemental EIS were denied by the FAA.

However, several ONCC members and federal lawmakers still believe that a re-evaluation is not sufficient, and a supplemental analysis is in order at O'Hare. In October, commission members voted again, but this time the resolution, sponsored by the City of Park Ridge, called for the FAA to conduct a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

A significant shift in aircraft noise occurred when the airport moved to an east/west flow parallel runway configuration in October 2013 with the commissioning of Runway 10C/28C. A new southern Runway 10R/28L will be commissioned in October 2015. ONCC members and congressional leaders have been inundated with complaints from residents living around O'Hare.

Members:

Arlington Heights
Bartlett
Bellwood
Bensenville
Bloomingdale
Chicago
Chicago Wards
36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 45
Cook County
Des Plaines
Downers Grove
Elmwood Park
Franklin Park
Harwood Heights
Hoffman Estates
Itasca
Maywood
Melrose Park
Morton Grove
Mount Prospect
Niles
Norridge
Northlake
Oak Park
Palatine
Park Ridge
River Forest
River Grove
Rolling Meadows
Rosemont
Schaumburg
Schiller Park
Stone Park
Wood Dale

School Districts:

59, 63, 64, 80, 81, 84,
84.5, 85.5, 86, 87, 88,
89, 214, 234, 299, 401

The commission believes these two resolutions may initiate some action to solve the O'Hare noise issue. We would appreciate it if you would please review the two enclosed resolutions and respond to our requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arlene J. Mulder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

Arlene J. Mulder

ONCC Chairman

cc: ONCC Members

